

The listing of claims will replace all prior art versions, and listings, of claims in the present application:

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended) A pyrotechnic composition ~~for producing IR radiation characterised in that~~ comprising
an oxidation agent selected from fluorinated spherical, carbocyclic cage molecules or and polymers with such fluorinated cage molecules as monomers are included as an oxidation agent, and
a fuel selected from a halophilic metal combining combined with fluorine in an exothermic reaction or such and a metal alloy thereof is contained as a fuel, said pyrotechnic composition produces IR radiation.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended) A pyrotechnic composition according to claim 1 ~~characterised in that~~ wherein said oxidizing agent is a fluorinated spherical, carbocyclic cage molecule[[s]] of the general formula $(CR^F)_n$ with $R^F = C_mF_{2m+1}$ or a polymer[[s]] with such a fluorinated cage molecule[[s]] as a monomer[[s]]-are included as an oxidation agent, wherein n is a natural number and m is a natural number including 0.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended) A pyrotechnic composition according to claim 2 ~~characterised in that~~ wherein m = 0 or 1.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended) A pyrotechnic composition according to claim 2 ~~or claim 3 characterised in that~~ wherein n = 4, 6, 8, 20, 60 or 70.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended) A pyrotechnic composition according to claim 4 ~~characterised in that~~ wherein said oxidation agent is one of $(CF)_4$, $C_4(CF_3)_4$, $(CF)_6$, $C_6(CF_3)_6$, $(CF)_8$, $C_8(CF_3)_8$ and [[/or]] $(CF)_{20}$ ~~is included as an oxidation agent.~~

Claim 6 (Withdrawn) A pyrotechnic composition according to claim 1 characterised in that polyfluorofullerenes of the general formula $C_{60+2n}F_{2m}$ or polymers with such polyfluorofullerenes as monomers are included as an oxidation agent, wherein n is a natural number including 0 and m is a natural number.

Claim 7 (Withdrawn) A pyrotechnic composition according to claim 6 characterised in that $C_{60}F_{48}$ and/or $C_{60}F_{60}$ is included as an oxidation agent.

Claim 8 (Withdrawn) A pyrotechnic composition according to claim 1 characterised in that polyfluorofullerenes of the general formula $C_{60+2n}R^1_mR^2_bZ_y$ or polymers with such polyfluorofullerenes as monomers are included as an oxidation agent, wherein R^1 is a straight or branched hydrocarbon chain or an aromatic radical with up to 100 carbon atoms, R^2 is a straight or branched fluoroalkyl with up to 100 carbon atoms and Z is a hydrogen, fluorine, or chlorine atom, and wherein n, m and y are natural numbers including 0 and b is a natural number.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended) A pyrotechnic composition according to claim 1 ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the fuel is a metal selected ~~from the group of the metals~~

lithium, beryllium, magnesium, zinc, calcium, strontium, barium, boron, aluminium, titanium, zirconium, hafnium ~~or~~ and a mixture or alloy of said metals.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended) A pyrotechnic composition according to claim 9 characterised in that wherein the fuel is magnesium.

Claim 11 (Withdrawn) A pyrotechnic composition according to claim 1 characterised in that the molar stoichiometry of the pyrotechnic composition complies with the formula

$$\Phi / M \leq w$$

wherein Φ is the number of fluorine atoms per fluorinated spherical carbocyclic cage molecule or monomer, M is the number of metal atoms and w is the maximum degree of oxidation of the metal.

Claim 12 (Withdrawn) A pyrotechnic composition according to claim 1 characterised in that the oxidation agent is sublimated on to the metal.